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February 14, 2011

Dear Growers:

Recently the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) published an important update* to the federal order for *Phytophthora ramorum*, also known as Sudden Oak Death (SOD). This requires pre-notification of the destination state of SOD host plant shipments, which could be critical to your businesses.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- NEW! Advance Notification Required for SOD host plants of the genera *Camellia*, *Kalmia*, *Pieris*, *Rhododendron* (including Azalea), and *Viburnum*.
- The Advance Notification Required after March 1, 2011.
- Only Oregon and Washington do not require notification. Notify all other states.
- If you ship these plants without providing advance notice they may be held, returned to origin, or destroyed at the expense of the shipper unless you can prove that advance notice was made.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO PRIOR TO MARCH 1, 2011:

- Please read the included information from USDA and the Exhibits.
- You must update your SOD compliance agreement with the three included Exhibits by:
 - At the top of the page for EACH of the three exhibits –
 - Print your nursery's name,
 - Print the owner/manager's name
 - The owner/manager must sign and date.
 - Scan and e-mail these changes to us at Phpp.awm@sdcounty.ca.gov OR FAX (760-752-4703),
 - Please be sure to include your e-mail address on all responses.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO BEGINNING ON MARCH 1, 2011

- Send advance notice to the receiving State Plant Regulatory Official (SPRO) at the time of shipment. Contact information can be found at – <http://www.nationalplantboard.org/member/index.html>.
- The notice must be sent by mail, facsimile, or e-mail.
- **Send a copy of a bill of sale, manifest, or other documentation (via mail, facsimile, or email) that includes the following information:**
 - **Shipping date, name, telephone number, and full address of the consignee;**
 - **Name, telephone number, and address of the shipper;**
 - **Plant name and number of each plant species/variety shipped; and**
 - **Mode of transportation (air, courier, ground).**
- Keep a record of notifications for at least six months. The burden of notification proof falls on the shipper.

We will be sending these updated regulations to all growers that hold a SOD compliance agreement in San Diego County by direct mailing that will be supplemented with information on our website (<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/awm/>), links from industry websites, and direct contact from inspection staff.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at the **Inspection Request Line at 760-752-4713** or e-mail to Phpp.awm@sdcounty.ca.gov. A supervisor or the inspector who is the SOD specialist in your area will call you back.

Sincerely,



ROBERT G. ATKINS
Agricultural Commissioner/
Sealer of Weights and Measures

RA:db

Enclosures: SOD Exhibits B, X, and X2

*USDA letter and supporting guidance document can be found at:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/pram/downloads/pdf_files/SPROWithPr
amPrenotificationFO.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/pram/downloads/pdf_files/SPROWithPr
amPrenotificationFO.pdf)

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/pram/downloads/pdf_files/PramPrenotif
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